

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 13 and 18-26.

Amend claims 1-4, 14, 17, 27 and 28 as shown in clean format below. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, all pending claims are presented below. A marked-up version of the amendments made in this response is submitted herewith.

1. (Amended) A dryer comprising:

A4
a blower for generating an airstream,

a heater for increasing a temperature of the airstream, and

an air outlet for outputting the airstream, said air outlet having a perimeter to area ratio greater than 2.5 inch^{-1} .

2. (Amended) The dryer of claim 1 wherein said perimeter to area ratio is greater than 5 inch^{-1} .

3. (Amended) The dryer of claim 1 wherein said perimeter to area ratio is greater than 2.5 and less than 7 inch^{-1} .

4. (Amended) The dryer of claim 1 wherein said perimeter to area ratio is greater than 5 inch^{-1} and less than 7 inch^{-1} .

5. The dryer of claim 1 wherein said air outlet is circular.

6. The dryer of claim 1 wherein said air outlet has an air outlet length greater than an air outlet largest dimension.

7. The dryer of claim 6 wherein said air outlet is circular and has a length of about 3 to about 5 times larger than a diameter of the air outlet.

8. The dryer of claim 1 further comprising a dryer housing having a rear wall for mounting said housing, said air outlet being angled towards said rear wall.

9. The dryer of claim 1 further comprising a second air outlet.

10. The dryer of claim 1 wherein said blower generates an airstream having a velocity no less than 18,000 linear feet per minute.

11. The dryer of claim 1 further comprising sound absorbing material to reduce sound level.

12. The dryer of claim 11 wherein said sound absorbing material is positioned in a sound cavity to generate a plurality of reflections off said sound absorbing material.

A6 14. (Amended) The dryer of claim 1 wherein said heater is located downstream from said blower.

15. The dryer of claim 1 further comprising a motor coupled to said blower, said motor being a brushless motor.

16. The dryer of claim 1 further comprising a motor coupled to said blower, said motor being a brush-type motor.

17. (Amended) The dryer of claim 16 further comprising a surge suppressor in series with the brush motor to reduce starting current surge and to extend brush life, wherein said surge suppressor is a thermistor.

27. (Amended) A dryer comprising:

a blower for generating an airstream,
a heater for increasing a temperature of the airstream, and
a tubular air outlet for outputting the airstream,
at least one channel in fluid communication with said air outlet,
a further heater positioned in said channel,
said airstream entraining air through said channel and past said heater.

28. (Amended) A dryer comprising:

a blower for generating an airstream,
a heater for increasing a temperature of the airstream to define a heated airstream,
and
an inner air outlet for outputting the heated airstream,
an outer air outlet surrounding the inner air outlet;
said inner air outlet including a plurality of perforations to direct a portion of the heated airstream to said outer air outlet to generate a heated outer airstream, the heated outer airstream containing only air from the heated airstream;

said outer airstream being entrained by said airstream.

29. (Newly Added) The dryer of claim 1 further comprising

a housing containing said blower and said heater, said housing including a rear wall for mounting the dryer to a wall.

30. (Newly Added) The dryer of claim 1 wherein the area of said outlet is greater than 0.25 square inches.

31. (Newly Added) The dryer of claim 1 wherein the radius of said outlet is greater than 0.25 inches.

32. (Newly Added) A dryer comprising:

a blower for generating an airstream,

a heater for increasing a temperature of the airstream, and

an air outlet for outputting the airstream, said air outlet having an aperture

outputting the airstream, the aperture having a perimeter to area ratio greater than

2.5 inch^{-1} .

33. (Newly Added) The dryer of claim 32 wherein said perimeter to area ratio is greater than 5 inch^{-1} .